Trust Board Meeting: Wednesday 11 September 2013

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Chief Executive's Report

This report summarises matters of current interest.

1. Royal College of Surgeons report

On 27 August the Trust released a review by the Royal College of Surgeons (RCS) into gall bladder surgery at the Horton General Hospital. The review was commissioned by the Trust following concerns raised by local GPs about complication rates and an internal audit had found that there seemed to be a higher complication rate than expected for emergency operations for gall bladder disease at the Horton. The RCS report endorsed the Trust’s decision to cease undertaking emergency gall bladder surgery at HGH and identified a number of other issues, which the Trust is addressing. The report is available in a redacted form. In the interests of transparency and its duty of candour, the Trust has sought to minimise the level of redactions to those considered necessary to protect the identity of patients.

2. Strategic Partnerships

Oxford Academic Health Science Network - Professor Gary Ford has been appointed Chief Executive of the Oxford AHSN and will take up his appointment on 28 October and joins the Network from the University of Newcastle where he is the holder of the Jacobson Chair of Clinical Pharmacology, the Director of the NIHR Stroke Research Network and the Associate Medical Director for R&D at the Newcastle Hospitals NHS FT. In addition, he has maintained a clinical practice as a stroke physician and developed strong links with the life sciences sector.

Dr Paul Durrands has been appointed Chief Operating Officer and started on 27 August. Dr Durrands has worked in the life sciences industry and more recently for the SHA on a number of projects with a commercial focus. Other appointments are also being planned to support both the core activities and the programme and theme activities.

Professor Ford and Dr Durrands are planning a series of meetings with partners and stakeholders in the coming months and in addition, these will be accompanied by a number of road shows in the various localities for staff of partner organisations and the public.

The licence process with NHS England is nearing completion and a final draft has been issued. This includes four key objectives against which the five strategic goals of the Oxford AHSN can be mapped:

- Focus on the needs of patients and local populations
- Speed up the adoption of innovation
- Build a culture of partnership and collaboration
- Creation of wealth through co-development.

The Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust is the hosting authority for the Oxford AHSN and will act as the employing authority. Plans are being put in place with regard to financial transactions and monitoring in line with Trust SFIs and SOs.
A number of activities have already taken place and more are planned including The VentureFest Oxford meeting in June; this meeting included a briefing on the development of the Oxfordshire High Tech Cluster which will be important to both the OAHSN and the OxAHSC. Two patient and public engagement, experience and involvement meetings have been held covering both R & D and service improvement. The attendance from a wide range of stakeholders was strong and feedback extremely positive. Both events are being followed up and outcomes will inform the development of the Oxford AHSN activities in this important area.

A very well attended meeting on the integration of physical and mental health was held on 23 July, hosted by the University of Reading and organised by Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. Again very positive feedback was received, including from the National Clinical Adviser. This activity supports the development of the mental health network within and across the AHSN and will be an area of close collaboration with the newly designated CLAHRC.

The Oxford AHSN will also be working closely with the newly designated Thames Valley and South Midlands Clinical Research Network also to be hosted by the OUH.

**Oxford Academic Health Science Centre (OxAHSC)**

The PQQ submitted on 31 May 2013 resulted in shortlisting and feedback was received from the Designation Panel recognising the strengths of the proposal and the demonstration by the partnership of its excellent track record of translation, innovation and evidence-based practice, and provided many convincing examples of successful translation of results obtained in basic sciences into patient care.

Professor Sir John Bell has continued to lead the process working with Sir Jonathan Michael, Mr Stuart Bell, Professor Alastair Buchan and Mrs June Girvin. The Final Application Document is currently being drafted for submission at the end of September. The Interview by the Designation Panel will take place on 29 October but the membership of the Panel has not yet been announced.

The Full Application includes the following areas:

- Strategy, Governance and Leadership
- Themes and work programmes –
  - Inclusivity and diversity, including patient and public involvement and engagement
  - Contribution to economic growth
- Strategic partnerships & working with NIHR-funded research infrastructure
- Working with the NHS Architecture
- Integration of research, health education and patient care

A further stakeholder event was held on Wednesday 4 September following the successful stakeholder event held on 12 July. The focus of this meeting will be discussion on the possible themes which will form the work for the OxAHSC over the next five years.

A total of six themes will be presented in the Full Application with their aims and objectives, expected contributions to the further integration of research, health education and/or patient care and how this will lead to improvements in patient care; and how each theme/work programme will involve and enhance multi-disciplinary and multi-professional working.
Support to this process continues to be provided by the University and the OUH and it should be noted that letters of support from all four partners will be required to support the application.

3. NHS England invites views on the future of general practice
As part of NHS England’s 10 year strategy for the NHS, it is reviewing the current primary care system and engaging with key partners, including frontline clinicians, to develop a long term, effective solution. NHS England is also inviting comments about how it can best support local changes, for example through the way national contractual frameworks are developed. More information is available at http://www.england.nhs.uk/2013/08/14/igp-cta/

4. FT Staff Governor sessions
Staff governor sessions begin on Monday 23 September, details of which are available on the intranet. The sessions will provide general information about the NHS and the Trust, introduce key people within the Trust, provide a general overview of the role of governor and outline the time commitment required to become a governor.

5. NIHR Clinical Research Network:
The Trust been appointed by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) to host Clinical Research Network for the Thames Valley and the South Midlands. The NIHR Clinical Research Network is the clinical research delivery arm of the NHS and provides funding to hospitals and surgeries to pay for research nurses, scans, x-rays and other costs associated with carrying out clinical research in the NHS. The Network will aim to increase the opportunities for patients across the Region to take part in clinical research, to ensure that studies are carried out efficiently, and will support the Government’s Strategy for UK Life Sciences by helping companies to carry out clinical research into new treatments and improved ways to diagnose illnesses in the NHS.

6. The Berwick Review, the Keogh Review and the Cavendish Review
I would like to draw your attention to these reports which were recently published in response to the Francis Report as they contain far reaching recommendations. The Keogh Mortality Review (14 hospitals with high mortality rates) and Berwick Review into Patient Safety are discussed in detail in a separate paper for this month’s Board. The Cavendish Review -An Independent Review into Healthcare Assistants and Support Workers in the NHS will be discussed at TME in October with a paper on the implications for the Trust presented by the Acting Chief Nurse at the November Board.

7. Values Based Interviewing (VBI)
The OUH is involved in an exciting initiative, underpinned by funding from the Health Foundation Shared Purpose Programme, which involves working with the Health Foundation and the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) to introduce Values Based Interviewing (VBI) at the Trust. The aim of the VBI approach is to recruit people who, in addition to the required technical knowledge and experience, share the OUH Values and are therefore dedicated to delivering compassionate excellence. More details are provided in the Quarterly HR and Workforce Report and on the Trust intranet site here http://ouh.oxnet.nhs.uk/HumanResources/Pages/ValueBasedInterviewing.aspx
External interest in the VBI Project is high, particularly following publication of the Francis and Keogh reports. Last month, the Project Manager and the Director of Workforce were invited to present at the National Values Based Recruitment Event organised by NHS Employers and Health Education England. The presentation can be found on the NHS Employers Website here
http://www.nhsemployers.org/SiteCollectionDocuments/OUH%20presentation%20080813.pdf

Sir Jonathan Michael, Chief Executive
September 2013